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5 years from issue date reflect the three-month interest penalty applied to bonds redeemed prior to five years from the issue date.

§§ 351.72-351.80 [Reserved]

Subpart E—Miscellaneous Provisions

§ 351.81 Is the Education Savings Bond Program available for Series EE savings bonds?

You may be able to exclude from income for Federal income tax purposes all or part of the interest received on the redemption of qualified bonds during the year. To qualify for the program, you or the coowner (in the case of definitive savings bonds) must have paid qualified higher education expenses during the same year. You also must have satisfied certain other conditions. This exclusion is known as the Education Savings Bond Program. Information about the program can be found in Internal Revenue Service Publications. (For example, see Publication 17, "Your Federal Income Tax," Publication 550, "Investment Income and Expenses," and Publication 970, "Tax Benefits for Higher Education.") These publications are available on the IRS Web site at http://www.irs.gov.

§ 351.82 Does Fiscal Service prohibit the issuance of Series EE savings bonds in a chain letter scheme?

We do not permit bonds to be issued in a chain letter or pyramid scheme. We authorize an issuing agent to refuse to issue a bond or accept a purchase order if there is reason to believe that a purchase is connected with a chain letter. The agent's decision is final.

§ 351.83 [Reserved]

§ 351.84 Does Fiscal Service make any reservations as to issue of Series EE savings bonds?

We may reject any application for Series EE bonds, in whole or in part. We may refuse to issue, or permit to be issued, any bonds in any case or class of cases, if we deem the action to be in the public interest. Our action in any such respect is final.

§ 351.85 May Fiscal Service waive any provision in this part?

We may waive or modify any provision of this part in any particular case or class of cases for the convenience of the United States or in order to relieve any person or persons of unnecessary hardship:

- (a) If such action would not be inconsistent with law or equity;
- (b) If it does not impair any material existing rights; and
- (c) If we are satisfied that such action would not subject the United States to any substantial expense or liability.

§ 351.86 What is the role of Federal Reserve Banks and Branches?

- (a) Federal Reserve Banks and Branches are fiscal agents of the United States. They are authorized to perform such services as we may request of them, in connection with the issue, servicing and redemption of Series EE bonds.
- (b) We have currently designated the following Federal Reserve Offices to provide savings bond services:

Servicing site	Reserve district served	Geographic area served
Federal Reserve Bank, Buffalo Branch, 160 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202.	New York, Boston	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hamp- shire, New Jersey (northern half), New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Puerto Rico, Virgin Is- lands.
Federal Reserve Bank, Pittsburgh Branch, 717 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.	Cleveland, Philadelphia	Delaware, Kentucky (eastern half), New Jersey, (southern half), Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Vir- ginia (northern panhandle only).
Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, VA 23219.	Richmond, Atlanta	Alabama, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana (southern half), Maryland, Mis- sissippi (southern half), North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee (eastern half), Virginia, West Virginia (except northern panhandle).
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 90 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55401.	Minneapolis, Chicago	Illinois (northern half), Indiana (northern half), Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin.